



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/670,787	09/26/2003	Seung Jun Han	8733.597.01	4358
30827	7590	06/14/2005	EXAMINER	
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP			HAN, JASON	
1900 K STREET, NW			ART UNIT	
WASHINGTON, DC 20006			PAPER NUMBER	
			2875	

DATE MAILED: 06/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/670,787

Applicant(s)

HAN ET AL.

Examiner

Jason M. Han

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

The following claims have been rejected in light of the specification, but rendered the broadest interpretation as construed by the examiner [MPEP 2111].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Itoh (U.S. Publication 2002/0030993).
4. With regards to Claim 1, Itoh discloses a backlight unit including:
 - A lamp housing [Figure 1: (4)]; and

Art Unit: 2875

- A plurality of lamps [Figure 1: (1)] respectively having a first electrode and a second electrode and arranged in the lamp housing so that the first and the second electrodes are alternately disposed in one side of the lamp housing.
5. With regards to Claim 2, Itoh discloses a diffusion plate [Figure 1: (3)] located on the lamp housing, and an optical sheet [Page 3, Paragraph 38] located on the diffusion plate.
6. With regards to Claim 3, Itoh discloses the first and second electrodes [Figure 1: (1)] respectively arranged in a zigzag fashion.
7. With regards to Claim 4, Itoh discloses the first electrode and the second electrode [Figure 1: (1)] being alternately arranged with more than 2 in one side of the lamp housing [Figure 1: (4)].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoh (U.S. Publication 2002/0030993) in view of Taniguchi et al. (U.S. Patent 6099134).
9. With regards to Claim 5, Itoh discloses a liquid crystal display including:
- A backlight unit further including:
 - = A lamp housing [Figure 1: (4)];

Art Unit: 2875

- = A plurality of lamps [Figure 1: (1)] respectively having a first electrode and a second electrode and arranged in the lamp housing so that the first and the second electrodes are alternately disposed in one side of the lamp housing;
- = A diffusion plate [Figure 1: (3)] disposed on the lamp housing;
- = An optical sheet [Page 3, Paragraph 38] disposed on the diffusion plate;
- A liquid crystal display [Figure 1: (5)] disposed on the backlight unit.

Itoh does not specifically teach the liquid crystal panel having a plurality of liquid crystal cells arranged in matrix form.

Taniguchi teaches, "By way of example, the liquid crystal device to which the present invention can find application is never restricted to any specific one but conventional liquid crystal devices or panels may be employed. As the liquid crystal cells to which the invention can find application, there may be mentioned in general twisted nematic, super-twisted nematic, homogeneous, thin film transistor or the like type liquid crystal or a liquid crystal cell of active matrix drive scheme or a simple matrix driving type [Column 24, Lines 43-51]."

It would have been obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the simple matrix driving type LCD of Taniguchi into the LCD device of Itoh. Such a configuration is an obvious matter of design choice and commonly known within the art, as corroborated by Taniguchi.

Art Unit: 2875

10. With regards to Claim 6, Itoh in view of Taniguchi discloses the claimed invention as cited above. In addition, Itoh teaches the first and second electrodes [Figure 1: (1)] respectively arranged in a zigzag fashion.

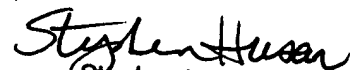
11. With regards to Claim 7, Itoh in view of Taniguchi discloses the claimed invention as cited above. In addition, Itoh teaches the first electrode and the second electrode [Figure 1: (1)] being alternately arranged with more than 2 in one side of the lamp housing [Figure 1: (4)].

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason M. Han whose telephone number is (571) 272-2207. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Stephen Husar
Primary Examiner